



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: June 20, 2008

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI: Consideration of resolution (a) authorizing a contract with Los Angeles Conservation Corp for construction labor; (b) authorizing a contract with Greenleaf Services for construction labor; (c) authorizing a contract with H2O Construction for construction of a water feature; (d) authorizing a contract with Christopher Glenn Masonry for the construction of a stone seating wall; (e) authorizing a contract with Magic Concrete, Inc. for decorative finishing on concrete benches; (f) authorizing a contract with SiteCraft for specialized woodwork on benches; and (g) authorizing the Executive Officer to let any other sole source construction contracts necessary for the timely completion of Vista Hermosa Park, Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution (a) authorizing a contract with Los Angeles Conservation Corp for construction labor; (b) authorizing a contract with Greenleaf Services for construction labor; (c) authorizing a contract with H2O Construction for construction of a water feature; (d) authorizing a contract with Christopher Glenn Masonry for the construction of a stone seating wall; (e) authorizing a contract with Magic Concrete, Inc. for decorative finishing on concrete benches; (f) authorizing a contract with SiteCraft for specialized woodwork on benches; and (g) authorizing the Executive Officer to let any other sole source construction contracts necessary for the timely completion of Vista Hermosa Park, Los Angeles.

Legislative Authority: Section 6500 et seq of the Government Code and Section 3.5 of the MRCA Purchasing and Contracting Procedures which provides:

3.5 Sole Source Contracts. The Purchasing Agent may let sole source contracts after approval by the Governing Board where any of the following circumstances exist.

- (a) Related construction or repair construction completion dates cannot be met.
- (b) Patented, licensed, or proprietary materials or services are required.
- (c) Compatibility with existing equipment is necessary.

(d) Prior experience and/or professional qualifications have proven that a particular make and/or type of equipment, material, supply or service is more satisfactory or economical for MRCA purposes.

Background: Prior to the opening of Vista Hermosa Park the MRCA is planning to increase the number of shaded areas, to upgrade existing planted areas and to improve other site amenities. To meet the deadline of the scheduled park opening and dedication on July 19th and to reduce any impact on the general contractor's constricted schedule, it will be necessary for the MRCA to contract with a variety of outside vendors to complete the work. MRCA staff is currently meeting and negotiating with multiple contractors that have worked with them on past projects and/or have the special skills required for specific tasks. The estimated total of the proposed contracts is \$350,000.

a) To implement the upgrading of planting areas throughout Vista Hermosa Park, the MRCA will need more laborers than exist on staff. Staff is seeking to contract with Los Angeles Conservation Corp (LACC) to provide 30 people to work on site for the nineteen work days prior to dedication. LACC provides transportation, tools, supervision and coordination for these laborers. Tasks to be performed would include planting, fine grading, minor construction and general support of MRCA staff. MRCA has worked successfully with LACC on many projects in the past. An upper end estimate of this contract would be \$115,000.

The LACC contract is consistent with Sections 3.5 (a) and (d) of the MRCA Purchasing and Contracting Guidelines.

b) Due to the size of the park, MRCA staff feels that having the ability to call in another contractor to provide laborers would be greatly beneficial. Greenleaf Tree Company has existing contracts with the MRCA for vegetation management services. They have always been reliable and easy to work with. MRCA staff is seeking to contract with Greenleaf for additional laborers. This would be a flexible contract based on number of workers and number of days needed. Greenleaf also supplies the transportation and tools for their workers. Tasks would include planting, fine grading, minor construction and general support of MRCA staff. If staff finds that the work is getting done with its own forces and with LACC, MRCA may elect not to execute this contract. An upper end estimate of this contract would be \$50,000.

The Greenleaf contract is consistent with Sections 3.5 (a) and (d) above.

c) MRCA wants to add a recirculating stream of water to an existing dry stream bed in the children's play area. MRCA staff is seeking to contract with H2O Construction all design, equipment and staff necessary for the construction of the water feature. H2O Construction has special expertise in design/build of water features replicating nature. The contractor has assisted MRCA in the past with the restoration of the water feature in the River Garden Park. MRCA staff has confidence that this contractor can meet the deadline. An upper end estimate of this contract would be \$65,000.

The H2O Construction contract is consistent with Sections 3.5 (a) and (d) above.

d) To create an overlook at the end of the meadow, construction of a stone seating wall is proposed at this location. MRCA is seeking a contract with Christopher Glenn Masonry to provide all staff and materials for the construction of the stone bench. Christopher Glenn Masonry previously built an exceptional stone amphitheater in Temescal at the Rubel Memorial and did all the stonework at the South Pasadena project. Christopher Glenn has a rare skills working with stone. He is truly an artist. He has a demonstrated an ability to work well on MRCA projects and compatible with MRCA design standards. An upper end estimate of this contract would be \$75,000.

The Christopher Glenn Masonry contract is consistent with Sections 3.5 (a) and (d) above.

e) MRCA is seeking to add decorative finishes to the gray concrete benches in the children's play area as well as putting a triple-layer graffiti coating on the special tile work on First Street. Magic Concrete, Inc. has the necessary skills to complete this work and is able to meet the dedication deadline. An upper end estimate of this contract would be \$15,000.

The Magic Concrete, Inc. contract is consistent with Sections 3.5 (a) and (d) above.

f) The serpentine concrete benches in the entrance area of the park are too low to be comfortable seats. MRCA is seeking to add wood caps to the benches to make them more comfortable and more aesthetically pleasing. SiteCraft specializes in curved wood installations. This contractor can also meet the tight time frame before the park opening. This contractor has worked successfully in the past with Mia Lehrer and Associates and comes highly recommended. An upper end estimate of this contract would be \$30,000.

The SiteCraft contract is consistent with Sections 3.5 (a) and (d) above.

g) As MRCA staff works along side the general contractor to finish Vista Hermosa Park, other unanticipated needs for specialty vendors may come up. MRCA is seeking authorization for the Executive Officer to award other sole source contracts necessary to complete the park in a timely manner. Prior to entering into any contracts, the Executive Officer will seek the approval of the Chair.